

About Let's Grow Together

Let's Grow Together! Infant & Childhood Partnerships CLG is situated in the Northwest area of Cork City and its work is delivered by an interdisciplinary team, in partnership with the community, local services and agencies.

The main objectives of Let's Grow Together are:

- To govern, support and develop area-based prevention and early intervention programming and approaches that support early childhood development, relationships, and environments
- To set the foundations for infant and child development, learning, wellbeing, quality of life and outcomes
- And by doing so mitigate the intergenerational impact of child poverty and get all children's lives off to the best possible start

The subsidiary objectives are:

- Respectfully enhancing skills and early childhood development knowledge, of all parents, practitioners, and services
- Strengthening and supporting all relationships and environments that are important to every child's early development
- Embedding systems and community change to support early childhood development
- Undertaking participatory learning and evaluation, documenting, and policy development

This work is underpinned by an innovative Infant Mental Health Framework and draws on best evidence and practice. The core work of Let's Grow Together is funded by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and is part of the Area Based Childhood Programme within the TUSLA Child & Family Agency.

Vision

Our communities are places where children experience happy, healthy and thriving childhoods that last a lifetime and no child is left behind.

Mission

To work in partnership with everyone important in children's lives, sharing knowledge, skills and resources, empowering families and enabling children through their relationships and in their communities to be nurtured, fulfilled, achieving and learning.

Values

- Inclusive
- Respectful
- Empathetic
- Integrity
- Open
- Collaborative
- Well Governed

Strategic Goals

- Delivery and Integration of the Young Knocknaheeny Programme
- Consolidate Reach of Organisation
- Stakeholder Involvement
- Monitoring, Research, Evaluation and Reporting
- Sustainability
- Good Governance

Roles and Responsibilities when Conducting Research with Let's Grow Together

External researchers are encouraged and supported to conduct research that supports the vision, mission, objectives, and goals, and is aligned with the values, of Let's Grow Together.

Activities Let's Grow Together can Provide Support with:

- Feedback and advice on research proposal, design, and protocol
- Let's Grow Together team member involvement in the full range of authorship activities
- Dissemination of recruitment materials
 - Posters at Let's Grow Together buildings
 - Sharing posters and other details with other relevant organisations
 - Social media posting
 - Discussing research directly with appropriate families and/or service providers
- Support with data collection
- Preparation of knowledge translation and exchange materials
 - Assisting with ensuring the language and design of materials is appropriate for the target audience
 - Assisting in arranging community events to share research and findings
- Dissemination of knowledge translation and exchange materials
 - Posting materials at Let's Grow Together buildings
 - Social media posting
 - Sharing materials with other relevant organisations

Research Application Process:

- Researchers are welcome and encouraged to discuss research needs, ideas, and limitations with Let's Grow Together team members
- Researchers can discuss practicalities of the research with the Let's Grow Together Information and Reporting Officer (IRO)
 - E.g. recruitment methods, data collection logistics, support requested from Let's Grow Together team members, background information, etc
- Let's Grow Together is also able to assist researchers with disseminating recruitment materials for studies that do not directly involve Let's Grow Together
- Broad overview of the research application process:
 - Discuss the research with the IRO and any other relevant team members, to decide and agree on the project and the supports requested from Let's Grow Together
 - Submit the full Research Ethics Committee application (including all attached documents) and approval (when received) to the IRO
 - The IRO will review the application, with assistance of the Let's Grow Together Research Advisory Group as required, and request any clarifications or additional documents if needed
 - Once approved, the IRO will issue an approval letter outlining the activities that Let's Grow Together will be involved with and the expectations of the researchers
 - For recruitment assistance only, submit the full Research Ethics Committee application to the IRO for approval and discuss what dissemination routes are most appropriate (e.g. social media, sharing flyers with specific families, etc)

Expectations of Researchers:

- Discuss and confirm roles of research team and Let's Grow Together team for the duration of the project with the Let's Grow Together IRO
- Submit the complete Research Ethics Committee application, including all attached documents and the approval letter, to the IRO
- Inform the IRO of any amendments to the Ethics application or approval
- Maintain the appropriate level of confidentiality while working within Let's Grow Together
 - Following the Let's Grow Together Student/Volunteer Confidentiality Agreement, which will be provided
- Follow Let's Grow Together's Child Safeguarding policies and procedures
- Provide appropriate knowledge translation resources targeted to the relevant stakeholders, including details on implications and recommendations
 - Research participants, Let's Grow Together team, community partners
 - E.g. a 2-page summary written for families, a policy brief, poster and/or other printed materials, and/or a community event to share the research results

Data Sharing and Data Processing:

- A signed Data Sharing and/or Data Processing Agreement must be in place between Let's Grow Together and the researcher(s) and/or their institution(s) before data collection begins
 - This can be provided either from the researcher's institution or from Let's Grow Together, and must be specific to the requirements of each individual project
- Data Sharing and/or Data Processing Agreements must align to and/or be compatible with the requirements of Let's Grow Together's: Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Tusla and/or other applicable funding contracts; Data Retention Policy; and GDPR procedures

Authorship and Acknowledgement Expectations:

- Let's Grow Together team members who contributed substantially to the development, design, data collection, data analysis, analysis or interpretation of findings, and/or writing of the manuscript should be listed as authors on all publications arising from the research
 - Let's Grow Together follows the ICMJE authorship criteria guidelines (<https://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html>)
- Families, practitioners, professionals, and community organisations involved in the research as participants should be acknowledged appropriately for their time and contributions

Contact Details:

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